

CULTURE WINS



BRIA CREEDEN | NW MISSOURIAN

Northwest coach Ben McCollum points to Bearcat nation after capturing the program's first national title in a 71-61 victory over Fairmont State March 25.

Program peak written in the stars prior to season tip-off

ISAIAH SWANN
Sports Editor
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Before the season began, Bearcat basketball had a hunch that history was going to be made.



After a Sweet 16 exit in Northwest's 2016 championship run, senior Zach Schneider tweeted that he was "positive" in securing home court advantage for the 2017 Central Region Tournament.

Whispers around Northwest surfaced that Augustana coach Tom Billeter had passed the national championship gauntlet to Northwest coach Ben McCollum. Rumors circulated that Billeter texted McCollum after the Bearcats' 2016 exit (courtesy of Augustana) that next year's championship crown would be theirs.

Northwest knew it had all of its key players returning for the 2017 campaign, and a title run was imminent.

The story began Nov. 11 with a 32-point shelling of Upper Iowa. The Peacocks possessed talent, exemplified by meeting the No. 1 Bearcats down the road in a first round matchup of the always-unpredictable NCAA Division II March Madness tournament.

In six short days, Northwest made an early statement not only to the MIAA, but to every team across the country.

The Bearcats delivered a convincing 82-71 victory over defending national champions Augustana. Three games into the season and thoughts of making program history were already coming to life.

Northwest ripped through its regular season schedule with a 45-point victory in mid-December, a 33-point New Year's Eve win and three 20-point plus victories in January.

The Bearcats' perfect season and 28-straight MIAA wins came to a halt February 18 in a 88-71 humbling loss to Missouri Southern.

A defeat that stung in the moment proved to be only a small hiccup in the grand scheme of something much bigger.

After closing out a storied 27-1 regular season, Northwest battled through the conference tournament and clinched its second straight MIAA tournament title at Municipal Auditorium in downtown Kansas City.

The next stop for Northwest resided in its own backyard: Bearcat Arena. Schneider's twitter prediction had come true and a quest for the program's first national title had its first real fire.

SEE **COLUMN** | **A11**

Men's basketball reflects over championship season

JOSEPH ANDREWS

Assistant Sports Editor | @Joe_Andrews15

In the final seconds of the NCAA Division II National Championship, Northwest Missouri celebrated a milestone.



The Bearcats (35-1) had claimed the program's first NCAA title following a 71-61 victory over No. 1 seed Fairmont State (34-3). The battle of the top two seeds was finally settled.

"I feel like it truly was the No.1 and No. 2 teams in the country," coach Ben McCollum said. "We were fortunate to come off with the

“

**It will probably never happen again
I would guess. Unless we do it.**
*-Ben McCollum, head coach
on winning a title alongside football*

win. I thought Fairmont competed. They fought and battled."

Northwest is the first program in Division II history to claim a title in football and basketball within the same academic year.

The task had only been done

twice in Division I, most recently by the University of Florida (2007-2008).

"(Our students have) broken so many records this year; now they've got another one," McCollum said. "It will probably never happen again I would guess. Unless we do it."

The victory fulfilled the team's hopes of doing such a thing. For three straight seasons, the Bearcats' season came to a halt in the Sweet 16.

Following last year's season-ending loss to 2016 National Champion Augustana, Northwest

set out to avenge.

"It doesn't even really seem real right now," junior guard Justin Pitts said. "We talked about it a year ago when we lost. We had to come back and work hard."

The Division II Tournament Outstanding Player led the Bearcats with 23 points in the championship. Right behind him was All-Tournament athlete Chris-Ebou Ndow, with 17 points.

Northwest took an early lead following a three pointer by Pitts. The Bearcats never looked back from that point on, keeping the lead through the entire game.

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Blueprint to your rights as a renter

Tenant and Landlord responsibilities:

- Tenants are legally responsible for paying rent on time, properly disposing of garbage, honoring the number of occupants listed in the lease and taking care of the property.
- Landlords are legally responsible for making the property habitable before tenants move in and paying for repairs that need to be made due to ordinary wear-and-tear or weather damages.

Tenants have a legal right to:

- A property capable of being lived in, as well as having appliances maintained and in compliance with applicable housing and building codes.
- The property should be safe and common areas should be secure.
- Tenants have the right to live on the property as long as rent is paid; they are not subject to eviction unless a court order has been issued.
- Tenants also have the right to pay only the rent specified in the lease agreement.

State Statutes:

- State statutes authorize county courts to order the quick removal of tenants involved in drug-related criminal activity or violence even when there is no arrest, and persons occupying the property without the landlord's permission. Prior written notice is not required.
- The Statutes also allow landlords to remove abandoned personal items once they have complied with notice requirements. The statutes also make a landlord guilty of forcible entry for willfully interrupting utility service, unless it is done for health and safety reasons.
- Another provision by the state statutes allows a landlord to double the rent when a tenant lets another person take over the premises without the landlord's permission and to limit occupancy to two persons per bedroom except for children born during the lease period.

Missouri Landlord-Tenant Law on Repairs:

- Under these limited circumstances the tenant may make the necessary repairs and deduct the cost from rent: the condition of the property affects the sanitation, security or habitability of the property and violates city code, the tenant has lived on the property for at least six consecutive months, the tenant has paid all rent owed, the tenant is not in violation of the lease and the tenant has provided written notice to the landlord of the problem and the tenant's plan to fix it.
- In all other circumstances, the landlord is required to take care of all repairs and maintenance for the tenant.

Missouri Landlord-Tenant Law on security deposits:

- Under Missouri law, a landlord cannot charge more than two months' rent as a security deposit. At the end of the lease, the landlord has 30 days to perform an inspection and return the security deposit with a list of damages for which any portion of the deposit is kept. The tenant has the right to be present during the move-out inspection.
- The landlord may keep all or part of a deposit to pay for actual damages (not for normal wear and tear), unpaid rent or lost rent. The tenant may not use the security deposit to pay the last month's rent.

Missouri Landlord-Tenant Law on discrimination:

- Landlords cannot refuse to sell, rent, sublease or otherwise make housing unavailable based on a renter's race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status or national origin. Landlords also cannot charge some individuals higher rent or falsely state that housing is not available for discriminatory reasons.

In the event of a nonresponsive tenant or landlord:

- Landlords can end a tenant's lease and begin eviction proceedings if the tenant: does not pay rent or violates the lease, is involved in criminal activity, injures another tenant, damages property, does not renew the lease within the given time period, fails to vacate the property once the lease is up.
- If the landlord is not responding to the tenant and the property becomes unsafe due to unaddressed repairs, the tenant should contact local health or housing authorities. In most circumstances, a tenant has no right to withhold rent. Missouri law provides only a very narrow exception to this rule for dangerous or unsanitary conditions that a landlord fails to fix.

Darcie Bradford
Managing Editor
@Darcie_Jeanne_7

SOURCE: MISSOURI LANDLORD TENANT LAW

ALEXANDRA MELO-MORA | NW MISSOURIAN

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UNIVERSITY OF
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LEARNING TO A GREATER DEGREE

City beautifies properties near campus

KYLE YEHLÉ
Missourian Reporter | @TheMissourian

An initiative implemented by the City of Maryville four years ago is paying dividends with regard to curb appeal in a heavy rental area east of the Northwest campus.

Crews have demolished around 40 structures following the approval of the Campus Town Redevelopment Incentive Program (CTRIP) in 2013, which offers \$8,000-\$15,000 of waived permit fees to landlords interested in refreshing their properties. The area known to city officials as “campus town” contains a high number of rental homes, apartments and duplexes habited by Northwest students.

In addition, property owners have led nine redevelopment efforts to build new structures in lots vacated by condemned or unsafe buildings. Those include new duplexes on Walnut Street, Fourth Street and Ninth Street.

Maryville City Manager Greg McDanel said the benefits of the initiative are increasingly evident.

“It’s all about assessed value,” McDanel said. “We took the combined structures’ assessed value of \$300,000, and we’ve now made the combined properties’ value

\$3,000,000. When we are able to increase assessed value, we are able to increase tax revenue back to all of its jurisdictions including the school district. It’s improved the tax base, and the safety of the neighborhood and rentals.”

Originally, the city started with a list of close to 50 structures to redevelop. That list has diminished to around 10 homes.

“Some of those rentals were dangerous structures for people to live in,” McDanel said.

Senior Jake Stansbury lives next to one of the homes on Mulberry Street torn down last fall. Stansbury said the house looked unstable.

“It was extremely old,” Stansbury said. “The house itself was slightly tilted if you were looking straight at it from the street. There were dead shrubs and trees around it, and the windows were worn and tattered.”

Workers are constructing a new house in its place. Stansbury said the improvements are noticeable.

“They are building the house farther back, to perhaps increase parking with a driveway,” Stansbury said. “Parking is an issue with all of the students renting houses in that area.”

Stansbury said the initiative as a whole helps Northwest look at-



SHAWNA KINGSTON | NW MISSOURIAN

A house near Eighth and Mulberry is part of the CTRIP renovation process.

tractive, even with the locations off-campus.

“If you step two blocks off campus and you have a bunch of run-down houses, it doesn’t make campus look good,” Stansbury

said. “If you start to revitalize the whole area around campus, it makes campus look better.”

McDanel said the program will continue with a constant list of properties to be enhanced.

“Our staff (will) continually keep an eye on them and try to find ways to work with the property owner for removal,” McDanel said. “Otherwise, we go through with it through our state-designated process.”

Board of Regents approve of tuition increase

ANTHONY PROCOPIO ROSS
Chief Reporter | @AnthonyProcRoss

During a regularly scheduled Board of Regents meeting March 16, motions to approve a tuition increase for 2017-2018 academic year along with a series of program fees passed.

President John Jasinski sent a letter to students laying out the increases. The letter addressed state cuts, the Missouri Academy closing, retirement incentives and information regarding the increase in its content.

“In January, Northwest was notified by the state that approximately \$67 million in funding was being withheld from higher education institutions for the remainder of the year – an estimated impact of about \$2.3 million for Northwest,” Jasinski said. “We are anticipating an additional cut of about \$3 million next year.”

The letter laid out the foundation of a 2.8 percent increase affecting the student population. This percentage is a product of the allowable rate for undergraduate resident tuition and fee increase. A consumer price index of 2.1 percent is being used for FY18 and

a .7 percent increase was added after state universities received a mid year-appropriations decrease in January.

“Although Northwest must slightly increase tuition and fees to maintain the quality programs and services you expect, please know that as an institution we remain deeply committed to offering a comprehensive education that is accessible and affordable to all,” Jasinski said.

In a meeting with Student Senate March 16, Vice President of Student Affairs Matt Baker and Vice President of Finance Stacy Carrick discussed specifics of the financial gap Northwest is facing for FY17-18.

“We’re planning on a tuition increase of 2.8 percent. 2.8 percent will give us 800,000,” Baker said. “The impact to the students isn’t 2.8 percent because many have discounts in the form of scholarships. The hard part is that it won’t impact everybody equally.”

Student Senate President Hannah Sears attended the meeting and brought her experiences in Jefferson City with her to add further

understanding to why these cuts are happening.

“We were told by members of the higher education committee that they have no idea what our budget looks like,” Sears said. “They make decisions to cut higher education institutions with no knowledge besides public perception. For example, Mizzou and the way that they’ve had negligent expenditures is affecting every single higher education institution.”

Sears and the Senate felt that members of the higher education committee did not have a firm grasp on where Northwest is compared to its competitors.

“When you’re trying to make sense of the decisions they make, keep in mind that they’re making decisions without looking under our hood,” Sears said. “They seem to be making decisions more based on politics than facts at times.”

Carrick brought up that both students and the University will be doing their part in making sure that Northwest is sustainable for the future.

“If you remember, our budget

INCOMING MONETARY CHANGES

2.8% INCREASE IN TUITION

NEW DESIGNATED FEES

\$79.10 A SEMESTER

PROGRAM FEES

\$15 TO \$38 PER CREDIT HOUR

SOURCE | PRESIDENT JOHN JASINSKI

JAMES CHRISTENSEN | NW MISSOURIAN

gap is 7.7 million,” Carrick said. “If you think about what that generates for revenue in tuition, program fees and designated fees, it’s going to generate about 25 percent. Then we’re looking at programs and service expenses of about 75 percent. I want you to know that we’re not trying to close the budget gap with tuition and fees. We’re trying to do our due diligence to be fair.”

Northwest students can expect an

average tuition increase of \$6.95 to \$9.95 per credit hour, depending on Student Senate decisions.

“As I’ve said to our faculty and staff on numerous occasions during these last few months, the cuts and decisions we’re facing do hurt, but we are approaching them as a set of opportunities that we’ll embrace with grit and resilience,” Jasinski said in his letter. “Because that’s what we do as Bearcats.”


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Bosses watch social media



Whenever you are deciding what to share or write on Facebook, do you think about your job before doing so? If not, you should because employers are looking into social media more than ever.

When turning in a job application, the first thing people should do is clean their social media of unprofessional shared videos, language that would never be appropriate in the workplace and any other content superiors should not see.

As an employer, you have to understand people are not going to be the same at home as they are in the workplace. But what social media posts qualify for grounds to be fired?

I do not know if making slandering remarks is enough to get fired over, but if an employee's posts have curse words in them, and the employee is not representing their brand or company in the proper way, the company should have the right to dismiss the employee from the job.

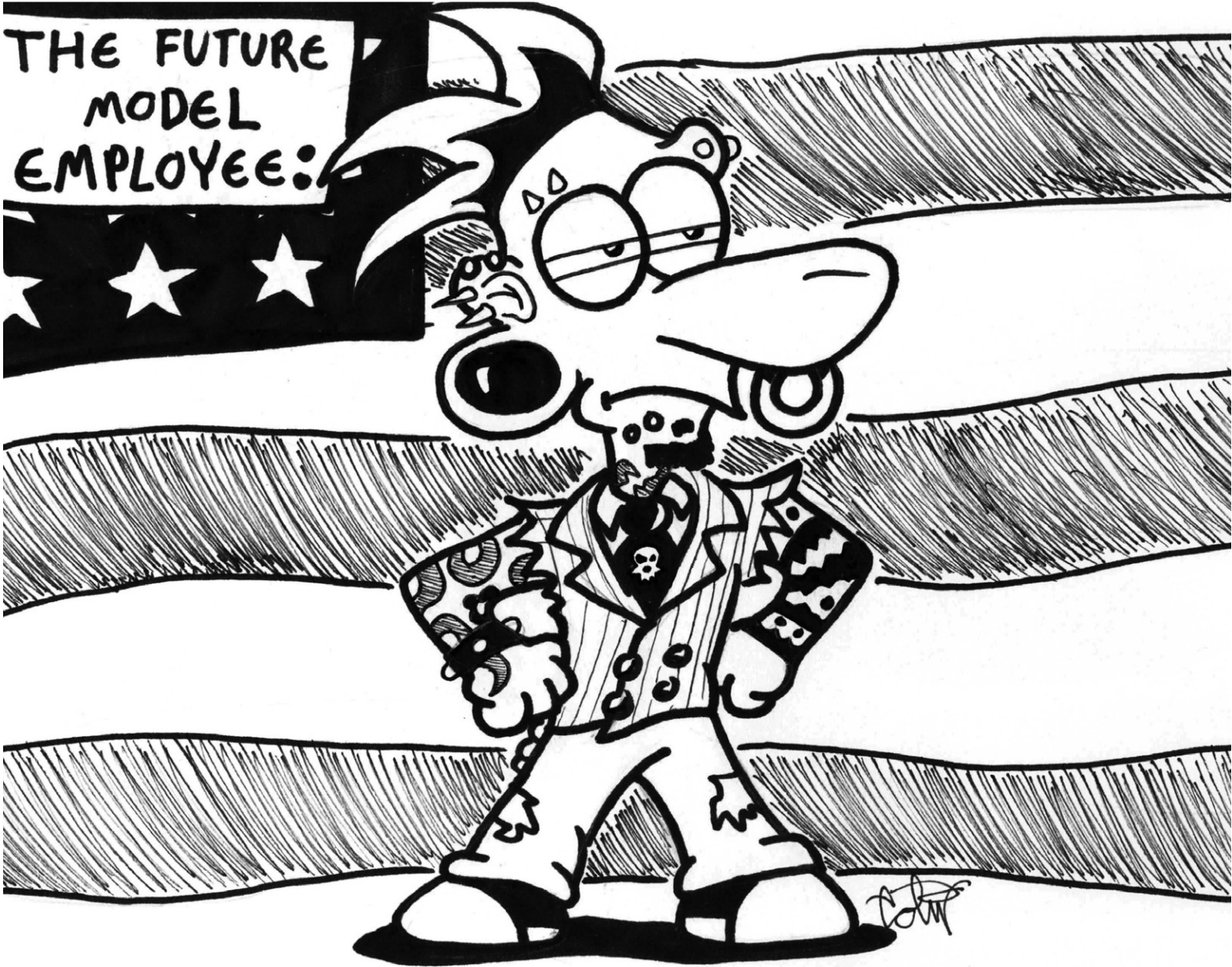
Should comments to your friends on Facebook be considered private? No, they should not. They should not be considered private because they are not private. Once you comment on a social media account, anyone is able to see it, unless you have the settings set to private for only your friends to see them. Even if you use the private setting, the comments are still out there on a social media account. You put yourself up for scrutiny and risk of losing your job.

With social media becoming more popular by the second, I think employers must look at social media accounts because it will tell them what they need to know about an individual. In today's society, you can go to someone's social media account and find out a lot about them. It would be dumb for employers not to look at their employees' social media accounts.

Once you accept a job from a company, you have to understand life has to change. Whether you would like it to or not, it has to. You are employed by the company and have to abide by its rules and make sure you would do nothing to put the company in a negative light.

Many believe this is not right and people's social media accounts are their private matter, which is laughable. When you are on a social media account, you are connected with everyone else on those social media accounts. People can follow you and see everything you say. Even your private words can be shown to the world and become not-so-private.

Whether or not people like this, it has already become a normal necessity for companies to look at their future employees' social media accounts. It is definitely time for a lot of people to clean up their accounts so they can afford to put food on the table at night.



COLIN VAUGHN | NW MISSOURIAN

Tattoos should be accepted



For today's Millennials, tattoos have become one of the most expressed and popular art forms. The artistry of some tattoos are equivalent to live action portraits. Tattoos even hold symbolic and even emotional value.

These creative inks are not what they used to be. They are self-expressions for the soul-searching generation.

While some employers have embraced tattoos and self-expression, there are some companies that still associate tattoos with unprofessionalism and poor appearance. Tattoos have become a significant part of the Millennial culture and are works of pride, so is it really fair to penalize

job-searching college graduates for their artistic creativity?

It is no secret that tattoos have gotten a bad reputation, being associated with criminal or violent activity. Getting a tattoo is considered an at-risk-behavior for adolescents. This is the a big difference between Baby Boomers and Millennials. Millennials have embraced tattooing while Boomers are unsupportive of the artistry.

In the study "Body Art, Deviance, and American College Students," Jerome Koch, a sociology professor at Texas Tech University, stated individuals who have heavy ink done are more prone to having involvement in illegal drug use and binge drinking.

With studies like these circulating the internet, inked young adults will continue to draw the short end of the stick when it comes to acceptance in professional settings.

Tattoos in professional settings

can have their benefits. Ink promotes creativity in the workplace; this creativity will allow employees to think outside the box, especially for those who go into the fashion industry. Tattoos can inspire individuals to experiment with their own property; their property being their own bodies.

A survey conducted by Aaron Gouveia, a contributing writer of salary.com, showed that in a sample of 2,700 people, 43 percent believed tattoos reflect that poor employment and preconceived prejudices is stunting the furthering of fresh graduates in their careers.

Self-expression is the ultimate motivator, and the negative reputation of tattoos should no longer be a factor. Millennials' motivation behind their tattoos is culturally influenced. Employers should look at whether the person has the potential ability to perform the job.

However, this is not the case in

most situations. This unethical bias has led to discrimination against people with tattoos or other bodily alterations. According to CareerBuilder, tattoos are the third most likely factor to affect one's career.

More maturity needs to be established about the appearances of others. In a judgmental society, the process of treating individuals fairly will be just as challenging as promoting acceptance of any civil right.

According to a Pew Research Survey, 40 percent of Millennials have tattoos and plan on getting more. It is time to change the perception of tattoo in the professional world. With the difficulties in some fields of finding a job after college graduation, new graduates should not have to worry if their free expression through their bodies will affect their chances of finding a job.

An open door policy on tattoos would be much appreciated from members of the tattooed community.

OUR VIEW:

Bearcats family cannot fall to cuts

Spring break began with an email sent by President Jasinski ending with "I hope you continue to exhibit the responsibilities of being a Bearcat – learn, connect, care, practice civility and show pride. Have a fantastic Spring Break, Bearcats!"

Positivity like this was interjected throughout the lengthy email, but not without addressing some of the issues plaguing campus discourse since the semester began.

Faculty layoffs, Franken closing, a 2.8 percent increase in tuition, registration delays and the Missouri Academy closing down are only some of the larger problems following the fallout of the \$2.3 million cut from Northwest's budget.

Sounds pretty bad, right? Well, that is probably because it is pretty bad. We are a family at Northwest, and when anyone of us is feeling pain, we all feel it. So when a dilemma like a \$2.3 million budget cut hits, it really hits home.

Thankfully, as Jasinski demonstrated and attempted to point out, if we are to get through this rough time we will have to look to each other first.

Cliché maybe, but Bearcats are probably the proudest they have ever been following the basketball team's acquisition of the national championship last weekend. This is no small feat on its own, but when you take into consideration the victory cementing Northwest in national history forever, it is hard not to feel the warmth of pride.

The negatives facing Northwest are towering, but the positives outweigh them 10 to one.

We are a family. We learn, party, make music, put on plays and routinely win together. Looming budget cuts can hurt us or we can push past the negativity bringing us down. But it is our decision to make.

Jasinski's email does something more important though: it teaches us

a lesson applicable to things other than budget cuts.

Jasinski briefly noted an anticipated \$3 million to be cut from the budget next year.

This, along with the issues listed earlier, propose a problem some Bearcats will not see before they graduate, but we have the opportunity to create an environment built on selflessness for future students.

It all plays into this family feeling you get on the first day of being a Bearcat. I recently came across someone over spring break wearing a Northwest shirt. While they were at a distance and I did not get to talk to them, the fact that I saw this shirt in Indianapolis really says something about Northwest.

I hammer in this idea of positivity and family because I do not want Jasinski's message to come across as a last ditch attempt at ignoring the bad we have seen coming for so long. One of Northwest's big-

gest selling points for many students is the size. We are a physically small campus, but we stretch out lot further than people might think. We do this when we boast our nearly 100 percent graduate employment rate, or every time we walk into a football or basketball season with a high level of confidence in securing another national championship.

Jasinski states something similar toward the middle of his email. It summarizes his message while emphasizing what we can keep in our minds any time another Bearcat is feeling pain, "As I've said to our faculty and staff on numerous occasions during these last few months, the cuts and decisions we're facing do hurt, but we are approaching them as a set of opportunities that we'll embrace with grit and resilience. Because that's what we do as Bearcats."

UPD partners with local artists for exhibition

ANTHONY PROCOPIO ROSS
Chief Reporter | @AnthonyProcRoss

Northwest alumni, students and University police officers pondered pieces of art to get the bigger picture on what community represents.

The one-night art exhibition hosted by the University Police Department March 27 at 7 p.m. housed paintings, ceramics, photography and sculptures from Northwest alumni and Northwest students.

University police officers participated in discussions about the artwork with the Maryville community and artists who attended.

Northwest students Chance Allen, Alexis Banegas, Dupree Dolor, Zoe Green and Melody Monroe had art displayed throughout the station. Northwest alumni who presented their work included sculptor Brant Weiland, ceramicist Jamie Woodard and painter Tia Calkins.

Woodard had porcelain work on display and for sale. She focuses on subjects such as nature, trees and texture in her work.

“When I’m working on a piece, I try to capture the impressions left by life and nature on the piece itself,” Woodard said. “I tend to focus on earthy elements. I want nature to show through in my work.”

Calkins curated the event and said University police officers connected with the group of artists at an art showcase earlier this month.

“By hosting an art exhibit in their new building, the UPD is hoping not only to continue their pursuit of art but also invite the community into their new space and experience the art together,” Calkins said.

“They’re experimenting in New York where they are bringing the of-



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Ceramicist Jamie Woodward had cups, mugs and plates on display at the art exhibition hosted by Northwest students, graduates and the University Police Department.

ficers in and teaching them to use their visual skills and conceptual skills in seeing things and identifying things in pictures in the art that normally people don’t see and pick up on,” Ceperley said.

Lieutenant Ceperley said he is always looking for new ways to get involved with the community. Do-

ing something both productive for the force and enjoyable for the community is gratifying to Ceperley.

“We do Pizza and Police; we do jump starts and all kinds of fun stuff,” Ceperley said. “We’re on Twitter and social media and different things. We’re always searching for that thing that sepa-

rates us from the rest. It is nice to partner with the artists, to use the facility and invite the public over and then also have a training for the officers to work on our visual and critical thinking skills.

Most art was for sale and prices ranged from \$50 to \$1,000. Artists had the chance to engage with

the attendees and get their names out into the Maryville community.

“The artists have utilized contextual elements from the present time and then have visually and compositionally manipulated them in an attempt to open up the conversation about societal issues,” Calkins said.

Revised petition provides faculty additional control over tenure

KATIE STEVENSON
Chief Reporter | @KatieSue_62442

The Associate Provost Committee has released a revised tenure and promotion application which will allow faculty members more choice in their application for tenure.

Northwest Provost Timothy Mottet gave a presentation over the new application process and changes made March 28.

The new program will give faculty members a new element of choice in their tenure and/or promotion instead of having to wait a set amount of years before they can apply for it.

“This program will advantage the high-performing faculty members,” Mottet said. “It will give the high-performing faculty members the ability to make the decision of when they would like to go up for promotion and tenure.”

For Mottet, the changes were needed to allow professors to take more control over their tenure.

“Underneath the old language you had to wait in rank seven years before you applied, but the new language builds in some flexibility,” Mottet said. “I like the fact that it has acknowledged and accounts for

not just spending time in rank, but once a faculty member has felt like they have spent enough time in rank they are allowed to apply for tenure and promotion themselves.”

In order to apply for tenure and/or promotion, faculty must present a compelling case that they are qualified. To do so, faculty members are required to submit a portfolio that highlights some of the work they have completed at Northwest.

The new released guidelines state: “Faculty members must document in their presentation of materials how their teaching and professional development contributes to effective instructional design where learning outcomes, assignments and assessment are aligned at the appropriate level of student learning. The presented materials must demonstrate faculty members’ understanding of the learning process and how his/her teaching is compatible with the process of student learning as it relates to a student’s ability to communicate, think critically, manage information, develop and apply a set of values, engage comfortable and competency with cultural differences, engage as a member of a team and serve as a leader.”

Mottet said the old idea of ten-

ure is no longer applicable because once faculty reached tenure, they were no longer motivated to continue to teach and educate at their highest standard.

“This whole notion of ‘I have arrived at tenure, my career is done, I’ve made it’ is no longer going to be accepted here,” Mottet said. “It is not one more thing you have to do, it is more ‘This is who I am and this is what I am doing, this is my identity.’ This is the main qualification aspect that I want to make sure all the faculty understands.”

The new application process also requires faculty to submit work which has been externally reviewed or reviewed by someone not in their department. According to the new guidelines, “Ranked faculty applying for promotion and/or tenure must present their scholarship in a manner that reflects their career in higher education. It is important that the applicant specifically identifies work completed as a faculty member at Northwest Missouri State University.

A faculty member’s scholarship must be peer reviewed.

SEE FULL STORY ONLINE AT NWMISSOURI NEWS.COM

Blotters for the week of March 30

Maryville Department of Public Safety

March 11
There is an ongoing investigation for assault at the 1700 block of East First Street.

March 12
There is an ongoing investigation for burglary at the 500 block of East Seventh Street.

There is an ongoing investigation for identity theft at the 400 block of North Main.

There is an ongoing investigation for harassment at the 600 block of North Water.

March 14
There is an ongoing investigation for forgery at the 1500 block of North Main.

March 15
A summons was issued to **Eli C. Henderson**, 18, Independence

for under 19 in a bar at the 300 block of North Market.

March 16
A summons was issued to **Saul S. Diaz**, 18, Independence, for failure to comply, minor in possession, under 19 in a bar, possession of another’s I.D., supplying intoxicants to a minor and misrepresentation of age to obtain intoxicants at the 300 block of North Market.

There is an ongoing investigation for burglary at the 1300 block of West Crestview.

March 17
A summons was issued to **Jeffrey S. Meyer**, 34, St. Joseph, for failure to appear at the 400 block of North Market.

A summons was issued to **Joseph R. Everhart**, 26, for stealing at the 1600 block of South Main.

March 19

There is an ongoing investigation for stealing at the 500 block East First Street.

March 21
Authorities received a report of a structure fire at the 600 block of South Vine.

March 23
Authorities received a report of a vehicle fire at the 300 block of East Summit Drive.

March 24
A summons was issued to **Sudeana L. Reno**, 26, for driving without a valid driver’s license at the 200 block of West 12th Street.

There is an ongoing investigation for recovered property at the 900 block of North Mulberry.

A summons was issued to **Brent L. Roberts**, 29, Hopkins, for failure to register a motor vehicle at U.S. Hwy 71 and U.S. Hwy 136.

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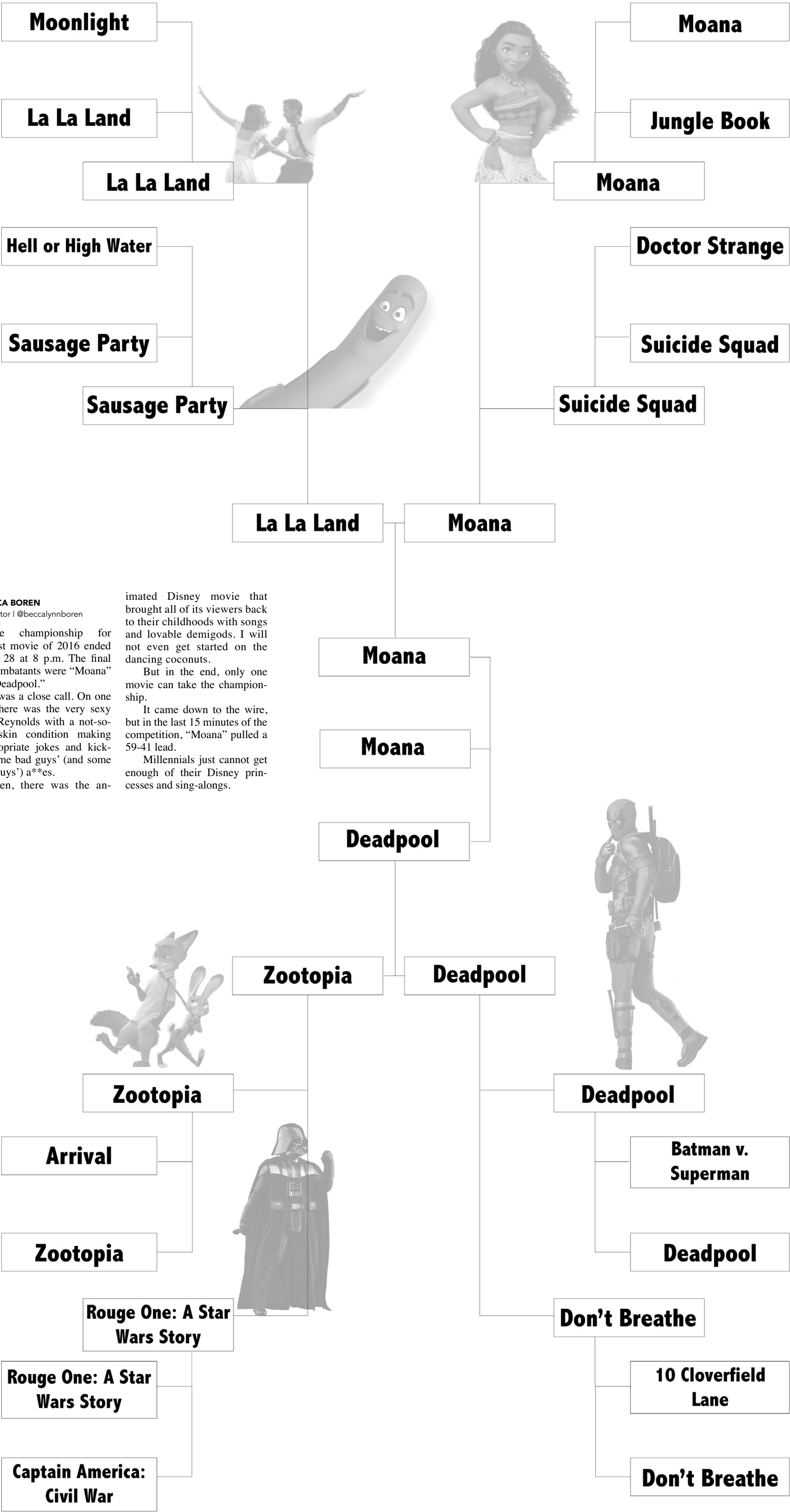
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The Vibe's 2016 movie bracket



REBECCA BOREN
A&E Editor | @beccalynnboren

The championship for the best movie of 2016 ended March 28 at 8 p.m. The final two combatants were “Moana” and “Deadpool.”

It was a close call. On one side, there was the very sexy Ryan Reynolds with a not-so-sexy skin condition making inappropriate jokes and kicking some bad guys’ (and some good guys’) a**es.

Then, there was the an-

imated Disney movie that brought all of its viewers back to their childhoods with songs and lovable demigods. I will not even get started on the dancing coconuts.

But in the end, only one movie can take the championship.

It came down to the wire, but in the last 15 minutes of the competition, “Moana” pulled a 59-41 lead.

Millennials just cannot get enough of their Disney princesses and sing-alongs.



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION HANNAH WOODSON | NW MISSOURIAN

While most people think wine night is synonymous with girls' night, it is not. Men are more than welcome to participate in a wine night.

Wine night is careful balance

ALY BAKER
Missourian Reporter | @alybakecake

If your school year or personal life is going anything like mine, you may want to drop everything and move back home. A better way to cope is with a wine night.

Though many of you may be familiar with the concept of a wine night, there are some do's and don'ts to follow to truly succeed.

Do's
1. Find the perfect wine.
If working at Olive Garden for a year taught me anything, it

is that there are a ton of different kinds of wine out there and even more brands.

2. Get snacks.
Keep in mind what flavors you like when choosing your perfect wine. And no, Mad Dog does not count.

When I drink, I usually get the drunchies (drunk munchies). Think about this while you are at the store so you do not get stuck at home starving. Worst case scenario, you can always order a pizza.

3. Get comfy.
You cannot enjoy your wine

night unless you get out of your work or school clothes and throw on something more comfortable, like a pair of sweatpants or leggings.

4. Find a good Netflix series to watch.

I do not know about you, but I would rather just catch up on a television series than keep having to find new movies to watch.

Don'ts
1. Assume wine nights are just for women.

Wine nights are so often referred to as "girl's" nights, and while that may usually be the case,

wine and wine nights are not just for girls. Anyone can drink wine and anyone can have a wine night. Wine does not care who you are.

2. Work on homework or work.
While you are relaxing, do not work on anything. While it is easier said than done, try not to think about your homework or work either.

3. Feel ashamed for staying in.
Just because your friends are going out does not mean you have to. You are your own person. It is good for you to have a night away from everyone and even better to take care of yourself by thinking

of your mental health. You do you.

4. Worry about the repercussions.

Yes, drinking a whole bottle of wine or eating most of a pizza are not the healthiest things to do or the best for your diet.

Yes, putting off your homework an extra day might make you a little busier tomorrow. Tonight, you need to enjoy yourself. This night is for you.

Wine nights are not a science, but if you follow these do's and don'ts, I can almost guarantee you a great night.

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Your favorite wine will change

SHAWNA KINGSTON

Photo Editor

@ShawnaKingston

When you think of spring break, your first thoughts are usually beer, Padre, beach and sleeping a lot.

Or maybe you think of working your butt off all week and not having any communication with anyone outside of your house.

But, you usually do not imagine a 22-year-old college student sitting on the couch alone with a bottle of wine. Yes, that was me and I enjoyed every moment of it.

To make matters worse, my dog just tooted and I embarrassed her and I am talking to her like a drunk white girl who saw a dog on the street. Or

maybe it's the wine talking, I am not sure at this point.

Cupcake. You instantly imagine a sweet, dessert with a touch something a little extra you cannot put your finger on. The lightness of a moist, vanilla or chocolate cupcake just melting in your mouth.

Moscato. A beautiful white savory wine. Sweet and incredibly easily to drink. Made right from the vines of Italy. The best part is the low alcohol content which makes you feel less guilty while drinking it

Now, add Moscato D'Asti, a sparkling white dessert wine. It is my favorite. It is best paired with a vanilla semifreddo and orange sorbet tangerine, whatever the heck that is.

This beautiful wine brings out the taste of bright fruity flavors such as peach tropical fruit and lychee. It also brings in a hint of bubbles on the tip of your tongue that helps bal-

ance the sweetness of the wine.

The wine comes from cupcake vineyards in the beautiful country of Italy. Just kidding: it is from Livermore, California, but that is close enough, right?

Wine is amazing if you hate a lot of people, like I do. Sure, it does not get you drunk fast, but if you are a light drinker, like I can be, this is the perfect wine for you.

Moscato D'Asti comes in a hourglass type glass, with yellow markings surrounding the bottle. Simply tear off the wrapper, get a strong, handy handsome man to take the cork out for you and you are done. Your weekend just got incredibly better. Stop by your local Hy-Vee or Walmart to buy this amazing bottle of wine for only 12 dollars and some change.

You are welcome. Enjoy.

The road lined with red pennants

a short story by Liz Morales

The path is made of dirt. It crunches under your feet. A smooth, shifting sound as the soles of your shoes push off your toes against the ground with each step. Looking up, you notice your surroundings.

Being blind, you only look ahead. Maybe this is because it is what you wanted to do. Maybe it is because it's what you were told to do. Nevertheless, the path winds endlessly

out of the scene. It dives into the horizon out of sight. You can only assume that it continues further ahead. Because of this blind faith you sally forth. Determinedly.

What doesn't cross your line of consciousness are the even increasing number of poles that lines the path that seemingly has no end. Tall white poles that gleam in the blank sky. Their shine alone

should gather your focus, but it does not. Atop the poles are bright red pennants. Flapping wildly in the merciless wind, they walk with you down the path. Every few yards one is placed. Still, you look ahead. Strength collects in your heart and you keep going forward. The pennants multiply as you keep walking. You refuse to acknowledge the road lined with red pennants.

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Northwest students enjoy an evening of Zumba classes all while celebrating African Student Organization Week March 27 in the Student Union.

ANNASTASIA TUTTLE | NW MISSOURIAN

Students bring African flair to Zumba

CORIE HERTZOG
Opinion Reporter | @TheMissourian

Northwest students had the opportunity to mix traditional African dances with Zumba in celebration of African Student Organization (ASO) Week.

Students met on the third floor of the Union Monday night to learn moves such as the Shoki and the Etighi.

Students combined these moves with fast music and modern workout routines, such as jumping jacks, to

explore a bit of African culture and many got experience a bit of their heritage.

Senior Destiny Anudike-Uzomah said, “Although it was not a lecture, we still educated those who came out on dance moves they probably didn’t know of before.”

Anudike-Uzomah is the president and founder of ASO. The idea of the organization was to bring awareness to African culture at Northwest. Anudike-Uzomah also led the Zumba session.

Students seemed to enjoy them-

selves. Not only did students learn about the culture of the moves, they also developed an appreciation for how difficult the dances can be.

Senior Jasmine Banks said, “I learned to bring a change of clothes, because doing those moves even in the stretchiest jeans is not comfortable.”

The overall night seemed to be a success for ASO as students wanted to continue with African Zumba on a weekly basis.

“Many people contacted me and asked if we could possibly do this

every week because some want to work out but want to in a fun way. This accomplishes that want. People really enjoyed dancing,” Anudike-Uzomah said.

Some students thought Northwest should do similar activities with other cultures.

“I think Northwest should have something similar for other cultures so the school can be more diverse,” senior Cassidy Jackson said. “It would be interesting to see how that would work.”

Heritage is an important part of

knowing who we are. It has defined boundaries of countries and built and destroyed nations.

However, while heritage is important in order to know where you come from, it does not define who you are. It does not define your future.

In the end, the night brought students closer to their roots and allowed for others to learn something new.

ASO will continue to host events throughout the week, including a fashion show Thursday March 29 and a trivia night Friday March 30.

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THE STROLLER: Your Bearcat wants you to prioritize

I started having sex seven years ago so it catches people off guard to hear that I have abstained from sex for the past six months.

Before I came to college, my understanding of undergraduate socializing was drinking and hooking up at parties. Going through my four years in college has proved that to be mostly true.

I wanted things to be different during my final year.

I did not plan on abstaining for any certain amount of time and honestly did not expect myself to last this long. I had no goals other than to fully enjoy myself, my

friends and my final year in college.

Throughout my years here, I have had friends go out specifically to find a new slam piece and get upset when it does not happen. They waste their nights and happiness on something that does not matter.

In the past six months, I have not had sex, but I also have not had a single pregnancy scare or had to worry if I have an STD. I do not go out and worry about who I am going home with.

For the first time in four years, I only go out with intentions of having fun. I get to experience everything that my friends are doing because I

am not concerning myself with the opposite sex.

Do not get me wrong, I am not telling you to become a prude. However, I am telling you to focus on the things around you that really matter.

We are young. There is still plenty of time in the future to chase the opposite sex.

Use your time left in college wisely, Bearcats. Always remember to stay thirsty.

The Stroller has been a tradition since 1918 and does not reflect the views of The Northwest Missourian.

Relaxation key to senior survival

SYDNEY OETTER
Opinion Reporter | @TheMissourian

We are a month away from decorated caps and walking across the stage to receive our diplomas from President Jazz.

We have spent the last four plus years here and it is all coming to an end. But, we have one whole month standing between us and the big pearly gates of adulthood.

If you are anything like me, your motivation is shot and you are busy worrying about what is next. So what is needed is a little survival guide to get us all through the last of this semester.


- 1. Take Time For Yourself**
We all have a thousand and one things to finish before graduation, but do not forget to take time for yourself. Take a walk through campus because soon you will not be here and you will miss all the trees and squirrels.
- 2. Sleep**
Stop staying up until five in the morning to finish papers. You will not do this in the adult world, so plan ahead and actually write them a few days before.
- Sleep is so important, so stop skipping it. You will get sick and miss out on things you actually want to do. Get some sleep, seniors.



- 3. Go Out**
This contradicts the other two, but whatever. Honestly, in the real world you cannot go out on a Tuesday night and black out. Your boss will not appreciate you throwing up at work.
 - So, do it now. Honestly, missing one more class is not going to kill you. Think of all the classes you have skipped in your time here already.
 - 4. Take a deep breath**
This one is also so important. Everyone thinks being a senior is great. No, it is not.
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Coach Ben McCollum cheers on his team as the Bearcats begin to seize the programs first national championship in Sioux Falls, South Dakota at the Stanford Pentagon March 25. BRIA CREEDEN | NW MISSOURIAN

CHAMPIONS
CONTINUED FROM A1

“When they got to the game they took full advantage of the opportunity,” McCollum said. “There wasn’t a minute where they were passive; they were engaged the whole time.”

With just one loss this year, the Bearcats proved they had the chance to win a title. As the season-ending buzzer sounded, McCollum felt a feeling of pride.

“I never won the last game of the season,” McCollum said. “It’s awesome. We’re going to celebrate it. It’s a little bittersweet; my three seniors are special to me.”

Seniors D’Vante Mosby, Zach Schneider and Anthony Woods experienced the conclusion of their collegiate careers on the court in front of a sold out Sanford Pentagon.

Each of the three were recruited by the Bearcats through their senior years of high school. Schneider was the only one to choose Northwest first.

The winningest athlete in program history, Schneider was determined the program would get to this point from day one.

“To me, it goes back to when I came in with upperclassmen,” Schneider said. “They showed our underclassmen, set the standard for us.”

Woods and Mosby chose to spend time in different programs before becoming a Bearcat. Once arrived, they established their own roles in the program.

Woods spent most of his senior year as a starter. He finished the championship with 13 points, five assists and five rebounds.

Mosby served as the roster’s sixth man. His personality was a major part of what established the team’s culture this year.

“I don’t think words can really describe what D’Vante means to this program and these players,” McCollum said. “If you wanted somebody to marry your daughter, he’d be the guy. He’s that good of a human being.”

The roles combined with other talent on the team, eventually launching Northwest into its memorable season. The three leave with just one regret; a 88-71 loss to Missouri Southern.

“You really can’t dream off your senior year any better,” Schneider said. “Other than that trip to Joplin.”

COLUMN
CONTINUED FROM A1

With a 34-home win streak on the line, Northwest showed no signs of slowing down, sweeping through the Central Region in front of three rambunctious crowd settings, including a sellout crowd in the Sweet 16 win over No. 18 Southwest Minnesota State.

Three games separated the Bearcats and national glory. The result of the three games was never in doubt, and by the final buzzer of the Bearcats’ season, Northwest had hoisted its first basketball national title.

What made this super team into the Division II top dog was the result of every athlete buying into his individual role.

Though the Bearcats possessed a two-time conference player of the year, everyone needed to know how they fit to bring home a title.

McCollum preached all season long that each player on his

roster knew what they had to do in order to be the most disciplined team in the country.

Schneider and freshman Ryan Welty were charged with 3-point duty throughout the year, shooting 46 percent and 66 percent behind the arc, respectively.

It is worth mentioning that Schneider converted less than 30 two-point field goals throughout his four-year tenure while making a combined 370 shots from deep. Schneider is also Northwest’s and the MIAA’s all-time leader in 3-point field goals made.

Junior forward Chris-Ebou Ndow is the second most athletically gifted athlete on the team. The big man finds the hoop at his own will and has ability to create his own shot at any time.

Senior Anthony Woods provided stability in the starting guard position while junior Xavier Kurth added extra spice off the bench when needed.

Senior D’Vante Mosby and junior Brett Dougherty are role models in every game. For Dougherty,

his job was clear and concise: grab rebounds, clean up missed shots and protect the rim.

Mosby will be the most missed contributor to this championship squad. If the energy level to a Bearcat basketball game is an eight, a Mosby appearance boosts that number to an 11.

I save the best for last. Junior guard Justin Pitts is in a class of his own, not only from a spectator perspective, but from his coaches’ and teammates’ perspectives as well.

For two straight years, the 5-foot-7-inch guard has been selected as the best player in Division II basketball.

He is arguably the all-time best Division II basketball player to have ever set foot on the hardwood.

What makes the hairs stand up on arms is the Blue Springs native is only a junior. Pitts will return for one final year, and just as he has done throughout his illustrious career at Northwest, he will only get better.

ATHLETES of the WEEK



BEARCATS

SPOOFHOUNDS

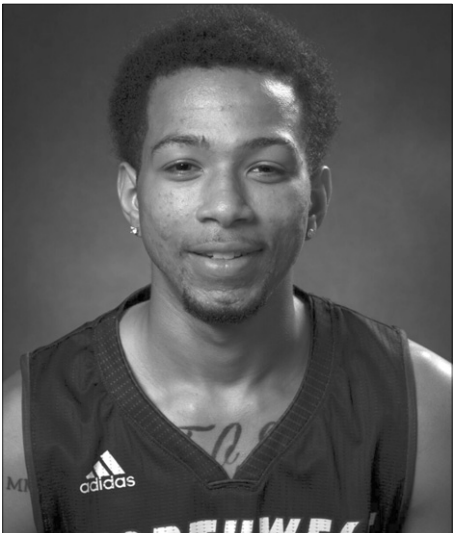


Justin Pitts

Kelsey Lacy

Lydia Mitchell

John Zimmerman



The National Association of Basketball Coaches Division II Player of the Year put up 23 points against Fairmont State, launching the Bearcats to the team’s first national championship.

The senior placed first at the Ashley Nally Heptathlon March 26 with a provisional total of 4,583 points.

The junior scored two goals and had one assist in a 4-0 victory over St. Joseph Lafayette, marking the first Spoofhound win of the season.

The senior was named to the Class 3 All-State boys basketball team by the Missouri Basketball Coaches Association.

Soccer rebounds after slow start

ISAIAH SWANN
Sports Editor | @iswanny3503

Maryville soccer had to shake off the cobwebs before getting back on track.

After receiving a season-opening 6-0 blow to the jaw from Class 3 foe Grain Valley, Maryville flipped the switch with a 4-0 victory over Lafayette March 28.

The Spoofhounds are already enduring their first extended stretch of games in the regular season, with a collection of four games in five days.

Stamina will be important as Maryville returns seven key athletes from last season's Class 2 State Tournament run, including junior Lydia Mitchell, senior Abbie Greeley, junior Annika Johnson, senior Kaylie Spire, junior Madison Holtman, senior Meghan Yarnell and sophomore Maile Baker.

"Today we kind of cleaned up and really started to get into our rhythm and into our groove," coach Dale Reuter said. "Once that happens, the whole team seems to come together."

In the Spoofhounds' first defeat of the season, everyone struggled across the board. The defense could not maintain a consistent formation, and strikers and midfielders spent a majority of the match in the defensive third of the field.

"It's nice to be able to settle down and run what we come out to do," Rueter said. "You can call it first game jitters. Call it their (Grain Valley) fifth

game, our first game. They are just a good team: can't take anything away from them."

In Maryville's matchup versus Lafayette, the final result portrayed a different story.

The scoring began in the 20th minute with Mitchell receiving an scrumptious assist from freshman Kaia Teale. Mitchell possessed the ball in point-blank range before hammering home the season's first goal into the bottom right hand corner.

"Once you get that first shot in, it feels really good," Mitchell said. "It was really relieving."

Mitchell's evening had just begun.

The junior assisted in the Spoofhounds' next scoring opportunity with a small pass to Spire. Spire drilled in the second goal of the game, bringing the score to 2-0.

Mitchell tallied her name into the stat sheet one final time by bagging herself a second goal in the 32nd minute.

A little over 10 minutes remained in the match and Greeley made the save of the game, protecting the clean sheet for the remainder of the match.

"She is our savior," Mitchell said. "If she wasn't back there, I just don't know. We owe a lot to Abbie."

Yarnell closed out the dominant performance with a fourth goal in the 37th minute.

"We have some stuff that we can build on now and the girls feel confident," Rueter said. "We're now looking forward to the next game."

Rueter said the team possessed a secret weapon not yet unleashed:



SHAWNA KINGSTON | NW MISSOURIAN
Junior Lydia Mithell attempts a shot on goal at Lafayette goalie Amber Kneale in the Spoofhounds' 4-0 win over the Fighting Irish March 28. The Spoofhounds take on the Savannah Savages March 31 5 p.m.

freshman Morgan Pettlon. The wonder freshman will already have high expectations as she will have a chance to see the field for the first time this season against Benton March 30 or versus Springfield Catholic March 31.

"There's one girl you haven't seen yet," Rueter said. "I'm looking forward to getting her in the game Thursday and hopefully Friday and seeing how she works. I think she's going to add a little bit more dimension."

NEXT GAMES
Maryville vs Savannah March 30 @ 5 p.m.
Maryville vs Springfield Catholic March 31 @ 4 p.m.

Returning core delivers first blow

JUSTIN QUICK
Sports Reporter | @NWMsports

The Maryville boys tennis team aims to build off of a dominating win in its first regular season match against Savannah.

The Spoofhounds traveled to Savannah to open their season and left with an 8-1 victory over the Savages March 21.

A fast start to the season could be expected with many of the top members returning from last year's team. Among the returning members were senior Brady Archer, junior Chance Hermelink and junior Peter Kempf.

Kempf and Archer reached the sectional tournament last season and Hermelink received substantial varsity time for the Spoofhounds. All three players used their experience to help the team get off to a fast start.

"In the first match of the year, as you play all the nerves go away, and you start playing tennis like Maryville 'Hounds know how to play," Hermelink said.

Coach Nicole McGinness sees a smoother transition from last year to this year.

"The transition has been pretty smooth since we've had so many returning. It's nice to not have to worry about so many new people coming in," McGinness said.

As the Spoofhounds move for-

ward in their season, the familiarity within the team will be a major factor in the team's success. Archer enters his last season with the team, unintentionally adding pressure of reaching the next step.

"I've wanted to win every match anyway, but it adds a little something knowing it's your last year and you always want to go out on top," Archer said.

The Spoofhounds continue preparations for their upcoming match against St. Joseph Lafayette March 30. They will travel to St. Joseph to take on the Fighting Irish at 4 p.m. McGinness hopes her squad cleans up the small mistakes the team made in its first match of the season.

"Just keeping forehand and

backhands and continuing to work on that, and getting the reps in will help us," McGinness said.

The match will help McGinness and the players clue in on mistakes they need to address as they continue throughout the season.

The Irish are coming off a loss in their first match to Savannah.

Last year, the Spoofhounds played against the Irish twice and won both times with a score of 9-0.


Next up after the St. Joseph match is a home tournament April 3 starting at 9 a.m. The tournament will give the team a chance gage its progress early in the season. The tournament will also provide a different challenge for each player than a regular match, with more matches and an earlier start.

The first few weeks of the season provide the team with experience and allows the players to make adjustments before they get into the meat of the season.

This is an important step in helping McGinness adjust her top six varsity spots throughout the year.

"Looking at these first three or four matches and just going from there is the important thing," McGinness said. "Seeing what works as far as doubles go and seeing how the lineup is going with the singles and working from there."

NEXT GAME
Maryville vs Savannah April 3 @ 9 a.m.




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'Hounds tested early with unpredictable conditions

TRENT SPINNER
Missourian Reporter | @NWMsports

As Mother Nature gives way to the rain, the Maryville baseball team seeks to pair rhythm and chemistry in its play the beginning of the season.

The Spoofhounds had varying results as they introduced the 2017 season this past week, showcasing a 1-1 record and 1-0 in district play.

Maryville began the season March 21, as the team welcomed with closed arms district rival Savannah. The Spoofhounds would show no mercy to their foe as they bested them 8-1.

Maryville seemed to be firing

on all cylinders as the team took on Lee's Summit, but the unpredictable nature of baseball caught them with a curveball, as the Spoofhounds fell to a late surge by the Tigers in an 6-2 defeat.

"We like to move things around to get the best competition. Obviously, we will see Savannah again and Lee's Summit is a Class 5 school, which is a class higher than us," coach Monica Woods said. "We were happy about the way we played, but we aren't satisfied with a loss."

In the few games that Maryville has played, leadership has reared its head to provide success on the field.

"I could go up and down the list for who has stepped up," Monica Woods said. "With this team, in any

given inning, it could be anyone that steps up."

As the Spoofhounds fall victim to the rain, the anxiousness to get the season in gear and finding the right rhythm is in each player's mind. Maryville has struggled to keep a game on its schedule as the rain has caused the past two contests with Benton and North Nodaway to be cancelled.

Both games have yet to be rescheduled, but the Spoofhounds' main concern is when will they be able to step foot on a baseball diamond.

"We are trying to find what works inside, and I would say we have done a good job," junior Jakob

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SPONSORED BY NORTHWEST MISSOURI STATE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT	NW BASEBALL	NW SOFTBALL	NW MEN'S TENNIS	NW WOMEN'S TENNIS
	MIAA Standings	MIAA Standings	MIAA Standings	MIAA Standings
	Overall MIAA	Overall MIAA	Overall MIAA	Overall MIAA
	Emporia St..... 23-5 12-2	Central Missouri..... 17-16 7-1	Southwest Baptist..... 9-1 3-0	Northeastern St..... 10-5 5-0
	Central Missouri..... 20-6 12-4	Missouri Western..... 25-7 5-1	NORTHWEST..... 9-1 1-0	Southwest Baptist..... 11-2 4-1
	Missouri Southern..... 19-12 11-6	NORTHWEST..... 14-10 5-1	Emporia State..... 8-2 1-0	Central Oklahoma..... 10-7 4-2
	Missouri Western..... 14-13 11-6	Southwest Baptist..... 22-8 6-2	Washburn..... 11-3 2-2	Washburn..... 8-5 2-2
	Northeastern St..... 14-11 8-6	Emporia St..... 22-16 8-4	Nebraska Kearney..... 6-6 0-2	Nebraska Kearney..... 7-7 3-2
	Southwest Baptist..... 18-9 8-7	Central Oklahoma..... 23-7 5-3	Lindenwood..... 6-9 0-3	Emporia St..... 6-4 3-3
	Washburn..... 17-11 9-8	Pittsburg St..... 26-10 5-3		Northwest Missouri..... 3-6 1-1
	Lindenwood..... 15-12 8-8	Northeastern St..... 17-18 6-6		Fort Hays St..... 9-7 1-5
	Central Oklahoma..... 18-10-18-9	Washburn..... 17-22 5-7		Missouri Western..... 2-8 0-3
	NORTHWEST..... 17-10 6-8	Fort Hays St..... 9-23 2-4		Lindenwood..... 6-11 0-5
	Pittsburg St..... 12-9 6-11	Missouri Southern..... 14-23 2-6		
	Fort Hays St..... 8-19 1-13	Lindenwood..... 9-14 0-6		
	Nebraska Kearney..... 8-19 1-13	Lincoln..... 3-23 0-6		
		Nebraska Kearney..... 3-26 0-6		
	March 31-April 2 Northwest at Pittsburg St.	March 31 Southwest Baptist at Northwest (DH)	March 31 Lindenwood at Northwest	March 31 Lindenwood at Northwest
		April 1 Central Missouri at Northwest (DH)	April 1 Southwest Baptist at Northwest	April 1 Southwest Baptist at Northwest
			April 1 Washington University at Northwest	

Men and women make national noise



Senior Lorena Rivas Jarolim returns a forehand shot in practice March 27 after battling a knee injury. BRIA CREEDEN | NW MISSOURIAN

ISAIAH SWANN
Sports Editor | @iswanny3503

Northwest tennis begins to separate as the men’s team flexes its muscles while the women struggle to maintain a constant pace.



In the most recent Division II standings, the Northwest men (9-2, 1-0 MIAA) dropped to No. 18 from their previous No. 12 spot.

The drop was a result of two indoor court losses to No. 16 University of Indianapolis and No. 17 Drury.

Despite the pair of defeats, coach Mark Rosewell said the men have experienced success through consistent singles play and superb perseverance.

“They are pretty good,” Rosewell said. “It’s a veteran team with four seniors. What we’re trying to do now is just play as much as we can.”

The men’s side has also faced nine top-50 schools through the first 11 matches of the season.

Two athletes have repeatedly shown consistency and dominance, including sophomore Sergi Fontcuberta and senior Aymeric Autones. The pair of netters have combined for an overall 17-0 singles record.

Rosewell used one word to sum up Autones’ and Fontcubertas’ play through the first 11 matches of the season.

“Outstanding,” Rosewell said. “They have played some good

players, and I mean good players. They are playing well and have done what we’ve needed them to do.”

On the women’s (3-8, 1-1 MIAA) side, Northwest made some noise around the same time as Bearcat basketball’s first ever national title in program history.

March 24 marked the day before the national championship game and also marked the day the women’s tennis team upset No. 28 Augustana 5-4.

“It was a wonderful weekend,” Rosewell said. “If we can stay healthy, we will have a good team.”

The women received help by earning singles victories from seniors Aniek Kolen and Lorena Rivas Jarolim as well as freshman pair Tania Teruel and Luiza Souza.

Nunez and Jarolim combined for the only doubles victory of the day, edging the Bearcats past the top-ranked Vikings for their third win of the season.

“I think it’s very exciting,” Jarolim said. “It gives us lots of motivation and confidence. It keeps us going. I was happy and coach was

SEE FULL STORY ONLINE AT NWMISSOURINEWS.COM

NEXT GAMES

Lindenwood @ Northwest

March 31 @ 3 p.m.

Southwest Baptist @ Northwest

April 1 @ 10 a.m.

Washington University @ Northwest

April 1 @ 3:30 p.m.

Baseball close to top gear

JAMES HOWEY
Chief Sports Reporter | @How_eyseesit

Northwest baseball comes out of a hard-fought series with Central Missouri hoping to make headway in the second half of the season.



The Bearcats (17-10, MIAA 6-8) showed progress against the No. 9 Mules (20-6, MIAA 12-4) in a two-day series March 26-27. The series was a meeting of, statistically, the two best pitching staffs in the conference and began with a double-header March 26.

“We fell a bit short to a really good pitcher but we didn’t sit around and feel sorry for ourselves,” coach Darin Loe said. “We got the big win in game two and all the way through the third ball game, they fought the best they could but just came up short.”

The Bearcats accumulated seven runs and 12 hits off senior Steven D’Amico, who has one of the best ERAs in the conference. Loe saw nothing but fight from his squad against the Mules.

“I think our guys didn’t back down,” Loe said. “They took the fight to them every inning.”

Northwest was one disastrous inning away from a possible win or extra innings March 27. The Mules scored five runs in the fourth inning and would go on to win 9-4. Loe said that his team’s efforts on the mound were positive despite the mishap of one inning.

“I thought we had quality pitching,” Loe said. “Two starters and the bullpen kept them in check. If we



Sophomore infielder Logan Rycraft slings the ball to first base in the Bearcats 9-4 loss to Central Missouri March 27. HANNAH WOODSON | NW MISSOURIAN

minimize that fifth inning, I think it’s a different ball game.”

Loe hopes the Bearcats will build on their effort in the series with the second half on conference play looming.

“Our guys battled in all three games,” Loe said. “I’m proud of them for that, and I think that is go-

ing to carry us into the second half

NEXT GAME

Northwest @ Pittsburg State

March 31 - April 2

SEE FULL STORY ONLINE AT NWMISSOURINEWS.COM

Softball finds mid-season stride

AMBER GIERSTORF
Sports Reporter | @ambermae30

In the thick of the Bearcat softball schedule, postseason thoughts begin to surface.



Northwest (16-10, 5-1 MIAA) spent spring break in St. Joseph facing off against several teams from around the region March 17-19.

The Bearcats struggled against the University of Minnesota-Duluth (18-8), eventually losing 7-1, and fell 6-5 to Wayne State (20-3) to start the tournament. The next day, they took on Northern State (17-9) and won 7-0, as well as Minnesota State-Mankato (24-4), who beat them 3-0.

They finished the tournament with a 10-0 win against Sioux Falls (14-13) and an 8-7 win against St. Cloud State (16-12).

Coach Ryan Anderson said his team struggled at the beginning of the tournament. The biggest downfall was the players’ lack of consistency from behind the plate.

“We outthit Wayne State,” Anderson said. “We just couldn’t get the hits to fall to score runs. We left the bases loaded and had runners in scoring position several times. They just got hits and we didn’t.”

Things turned around for the Bearcats, who managed to finish with an even 3-3 split overall.

Anderson said one of the benefits and challenges to the MIAA is that the teams play each other year after year, and become familiar with each team’s players and coaching style.

“You can look at it both ways,” Anderson said. “You know what to expect, but that’s what makes it tough too. That’s what really makes this conference fun.”

Northwest has only played a total of six conference games so far this season. The last two conference matchups came during the last weekend of spring break. The Bearcats took on Central Oklahoma (23-7 overall, 5-3 MIAA) in a double-header March 25. Northwest won the first game 10-5 but lost the second 9-3.

Northwest took on Northeastern State (17-18, 6-6 MIAA) March 26. The Bearcats swept the Riverhawks 5-4 and 5-2. Senior second baseman Torri Blythe said the key to their wins over break was that they were able to string more hits together to advance runners.

“I think our hitting really came along, even into the next weekend against Central Oklahoma and Northeastern State,” Blythe said. “We really focused on hitting a lot more, swinging at good pitches and just doing all the things we needed to.”

NEXT GAME

Southwest Baptist at Northwest

Mar. 31 @ 2 p.m. ; 4 p.m.

Central Missouri at Northwest

April 1 @ 12 p.m. ; 2 p.m.

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BRIA CREEDEN | NW MISSOURIAN
Junior guard Justin Pitts escapes two Fairmont State defenders while running the fast break in the Bearcats 71-61 win March 25.



Win for the ages

Northwest Missouri men’s basketball celebrated the program’s first NCAA Division II National Championship following a 71-61 victory over Fairmont St. March 25.

With the championship, Northwest is the first Division II university to earn a title in football and basketball within the same academic year.

The Bearcats completed its 36-game schedule compiling just one loss. The finish marks the second-best record in the program’s 102-year history. The record only falls second to the Bearcat’s 1929-1930 team that finished a perfect 31-0.

The season will be remembered as a monumental moment in the history of Bearcat Athletics.



DYLAN COLDSMITH | NW MISSOURIAN
Junior Chris-Ebou Ndow and senior Zach Schneider celebrate the Bearcats first Division II National Championship.



DYLAN COLDSMITH | NW MISSOURIAN
(left) Bearcat nation and (right) the Northwest bench cheer on the men to an historic 71-61 win over Fairmont State March 25.



BRIA CREEDEN | NW MISSOURIAN